United Nations A/71/588

General Assembly

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 39
Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America againstCuba

Letter dated 27 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith an appeal from the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addressed to the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of the States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 39.

(*Signed*) V. **Churkin**

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Annex to the letter dated 27 October 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Appeal from the State Duma addressed to the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of the States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba

In connection with the General Assembly's forthcoming consideration, on 26 October 2016, of the draft resolution on the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against the Republic of Cuba, the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation reaffirms its position set out in a whole series of statements and appeals regarding the necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo against the Republic of Cuba.

The unchanged, principled position of the deputies of the State Duma in relation to the flawed policy and criminal practice of imposing unilateral sanctions and various types of economic, commercial and financial blockades and embargoes, bypassing the Security Council and constituting a refined form of interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States, fully applies to their support for the legitimate demands of the Republic of Cuba for the immediate lifting of the economic, commercial and financial embargo by Washington, not in words but in deeds.

The policy pursued by the United States of America in relation to the Republic of Cuba for many decades is incompatible with the universally accepted principles and norms of international law, in particular the principle of the sovereign equality of States, the principle of non-interference in their internal affairs, and also the principle of freedom of international trade and of international commercial navigation. The damage caused by the actions of the United States authorities to the Cuban State has a very adverse impact on the standard of living and well-being of the Cuban people, and is seriously hindering the socioeconomic development of the Republic of Cuba.

The deputies of the State Duma note with regret that Washington's relaxation of certain aspects of the regime of the embargo against the Republic of Cuba, the restoration of diplomatic relations between the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America some 18 months ago, the joint opening of diplomatic missions in the cities of Havana and Washington, the initiation of Cuban-American cooperation on combating terrorism, illicit drug trafficking and trafficking in persons, ensuring the safety of civil aviation and other issues of mutual concern have not led in practice to the removal of the majority of restrictions and sanctions under the United States embargo. The restrictions are still being extended, for example, to two vitally important socioeconomic sectors: food and pharmaceuticals. The actions of the United States of America to extend sanctions to third countries cooperating with the Republic of Cuba and their economic entities, especially in the financial sphere; to prohibit direct banking links between the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America; and to open for American investments only one sector of the Cuban

economy, the telecommunications sector, which is extremely important in terms of conducting an information war, are also a form of politically motivated pressure.

The deputies of the State Duma condemn the policy of the leadership of the United States of America in maintaining for over 50 years, against the interests of the Cuban and American peoples, and also notwithstanding the position of virtually all States Members of the United Nations, the most long-standing unilateral system of sanctions in history to achieve strictly self-interested political objectives.

The State Duma expresses support for the Cuban people, who for many years, enduring deprivations and restrictions of a humanitarian nature, have defended their freedom and sovereignty, and proposes that the United Nations General Assembly, the parliaments of the States Members of the United Nations and international parliamentary organizations should urge the United States of America to end the economic, commercial and financial embargo of the Republic of Cuba.

(*Signed*) V. V. **Volodin**
Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly
of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 19 October 2016

United Nations A/71/589

General Assembly

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4 November 2016

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (a)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. At its 12th meeting, on 4 November 2016, the Fifth Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the vacancies in the membership of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of six of its members on 31 December 2016 (A/71/101/Rev.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General containing the names of eight persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (A/C.5/71/4).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Takeshi Akamatsu (Japan), Mahesh Kumar (India) and Ye Xuenong (China) as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 8).

4. Also at the same meeting, the Committee proceeded to select, by secret ballot, one person from the two candidates nominated by the Latin American and Caribbean States. The result of the voting was as follows:

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Latin American and Caribbean States

Number of ballots cast:	192
Invalid ballots:	0
Number of valid ballots:	192
Abstentions:	0
Number of members present and voting:	192
Required majority:	97
Number of votes obtained:	
Carlos Ruiz Massieu (Mexico)	99
Olivio Fermin (Dominican Republic)	93

5. Having obtained the required majority, Carlos Ruiz Massieu (Mexico) was recommended for reappointment as a member of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 8).

6. At the same meeting, the Committee proceeded to select, by secret ballot, two persons from the three candidates nominated by the Western European and other States. The result of the voting was as follows:

Western European and other States

Number of ballots cast:	192
Invalid ballots:	1
Number of valid ballots:	191
Abstentions:	0
Number of members present and voting:	191
Required majority:	96
Number of votes obtained:	
Marcel Jullier (Switzerland)	168
Catherine Vendat (France)	105
Ron Adam (Israel)	99

7. Having obtained the required majority, Marcel Jullier (Switzerland) was recommended for appointment and Catherine Vendat (France) for reappointment as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 8).

Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

8. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint the following persons as members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017:

Takeshi **Akamatsu** (Japan)
Marcel **Jullier** (Switzerland)
Mahesh **Kumar** (India)
Carlos **Ruiz Massieu** (Mexico)
Catherine **Vendat** (France)
Ye Xuenong (China)

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (b)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. At its 12th meeting, on 4 November 2016, the Fifth Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the vacancies in the membership of the Committee on Contributions that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of six of its members on 31 December 2016 (A/71/102/Rev.1);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General containing the names of five persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (A/C.5/71/5).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Cheikh Tidiane Dème (Senegal), Gordon Eckersley (Australia), Bernardo Greiver del Hoyo (Uruguay), Ugo Sessi (Italy), and Alejandro Torres Lépori (Argentina) as members of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 4). The appointment for the remaining vacancy beginning on 1 January 2017 was postponed to a later date.

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Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

4. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint the following persons as members of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017:

Cheikh Tidiane **Dème** (Senegal)
Gordon **Eckersley** (Australia)
Bernardo **Greiver del Hoyo** (Uruguay)
Ugo **Sessi** (Italy)
Alejandro **Torres Lépori** (Argentina)

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (b)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 18th meeting, on 7 December 2016, the Fifth Committee considered a note by the Secretary-General (A/71/102/Rev.1/Add.1) concerning a vacancy in the membership of the Committee on Contributions. By that note, the Committee was informed of the nomination by the Government of Gabon and the endorsement by the Group of African States of Baudelaire Ndong Ella (Gabon) to fill the remaining vacancy in the Committee on Contributions.

2. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Mr. Ndong Ella as a member of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 3).

Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

3. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint Baudelaire Ndong Ella (Gabon) as a member of the Committee on Contributions for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017.

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United Nations A/71/591

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4 November 2016

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (c)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. At its 12th meeting, on 4 November 2016, the Fifth Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the vacancies in the membership of the Investments Committee that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of eight of its members on 31 December 2016 (A/71/103);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General in which, in accordance with the provisions of article 20 of the Regulations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, the Secretary-General, after consultation with the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, submitted for confirmation by the General Assembly the reappointment of eight members and the appointment of one member of the Investments Committee as regular members for a three-year term of office (A/C.5/71/6).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it confirm the reappointment of Masakazu Arikawa (Japan), Madhav Dhar (India), Simon Jiang (China), Achim Kassow (Germany), Nemir Kirdar (Iraq), Michael S. Klein (United States of America), Linah K. Mohohlo (Botswana) and Gumersindo Oliveros (Spain), and the appointment of

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Luciane Ribeiro (Brazil), as regular members of the Investments Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 4).

Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

4. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly confirm the appointment by the Secretary-General of the following persons as regular members of the Investments Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017:

Masakazu **Arikawa** (Japan)
Madhav **Dhar** (India)
Simon **Jiang** (China)
Achim **Kassow** (Germany)
Nemir **Kirdar** (Iraq)
Michael S. **Klein** (United States of America)
Linah K. **Mohohlo** (Botswana)
Gumersindo **Oliveros** (Spain)
Luciane **Ribeiro** (Brazil)

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (d)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the International Civil Service Commission" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. At its 12th meeting, on 4 November 2016, the Fifth Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the vacancies in the membership of the International Civil Service Commission that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of five of its members on 31 December 2016 (A/71/104);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General containing the names of five persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (A/C.5/71/7).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Larbi Djacta (Algeria), Mohammed Farashuddin (Bangladesh), Sergey V. Garmonin (Russian Federation), Wang Xiaochu (China) and El Hassane Zahid (Morocco) as members of the International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 4).

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Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

4. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint the following persons as members of the International Civil Service Commission for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017:

Larbi **Djacta** (Algeria)
Mohammed **Farashuddin** (Bangladesh)
Sergey V. **Garmonin** (Russian Federation)
Wang Xiaochu (China)
El Hassane **Zahid** (Morocco)

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (e)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. At its 12th meeting, on 4 November 2016, the Fifth Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the vacancies in the membership of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of three of its members on 31 December 2016 (A/71/105);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General containing the names of two persons nominated by their respective Governments for reappointment to the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (A/C.5/71/8).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it reappoint Patricia Arriagada Villouta (Chile) and Natalia A. Bocharova (Russian Federation) as members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 4). The appointment for the remaining vacancy beginning on 1 January 2017 was postponed.

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Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

4. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly reappoint the following persons as members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017:

Patricia **Arriagada Villouta** (Chile)
Natalia A. **Bocharova** (Russian Federation)

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Agenda item 115 (e)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 13th meeting, on 16 November 2016, the Fifth Committee considered a note by the Secretary-General (A/71/105/Add.1) concerning a vacancy in the membership of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee. By that note, the Committee was informed of the nomination by the Government of the Philippines and the endorsement by the Group of Asia-Pacific States of Maria Gracia Pulido-Tan (Philippines) to fill the remaining vacancy in the Independent Audit Advisory Committee.

2. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it reappoint Ms. Pulido-Tan as a member of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 3).

Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

3. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly reappoint Maria Gracia Pulido-Tan (Philippines) as a member of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee for a three-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017.

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Seventy-first session
Agenda item 115 (f)

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Diana Minyi **Lee** (Singapore)

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 16 September 2016, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-first session the item entitled "Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments: appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee" and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. At its 12th meeting, on 4 November 2016, the Fifth Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General concerning the vacancies in the membership of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee that would occur as a result of the expiration of the term of office of eight of its members on 31 December 2016 (A/71/106);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General containing the names of eight persons nominated by their respective Governments for appointment or reappointment to the United Nations Staff Pension Committee for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (A/C.5/71/9).

3. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, by acclamation, to recommend to the General Assembly that it appoint Dmitry S. Chumakov (Russian Federation), Hitoshi Kozaki (Japan), Lovemore Mazemo (Zimbabwe), Philip Richard Okanda Owade (Kenya), Pia Poroli (Argentina), Md. Mustafizur Rahman (Bangladesh), Thomas Repasch (United States of America) and Jörg Stosberg (Germany) as members or alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017 (see para. 4).

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Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

4. The Fifth Committee recommends that the General Assembly appoint the following persons as members or alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee for a four-year term of office beginning on 1 January 2017:

Dmitry S. **Chumakov** (Russian Federation)
Hitoshi **Kozaki** (Japan)
Lovemore **Mazemo** (Zimbabwe)
Philip Richard Okanda **Owade** (Kenya)
Pia **Poroli** (Argentina)
Md. Mustafizur **Rahman** (Bangladesh)
Thomas **Repasch** (United States of America)
Jörg **Stosberg** (Germany)